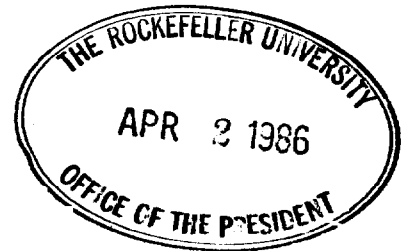


Department of Biology



March 28, 1986



Professor Joshua Lederberg  
The Rockefeller University  
1230 York Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10021-6399

Dear Professor Lederberg,

Thank you for your note and enclosures of March 17. I found your memoir on E. L. Tatum and associated manuscript interesting and provocative. I think I agree with you that although Garrod had come upon some of the essential conceptualizations of the gene-protein (enzyme) relationship some thirty years ago before Beadle and Tatum's work on Neurospora, he was vague and uncertain about what the difference between a normal and a mutant gene might be. Moreover, and I think this is important to emphasize, Garrod's work was not well known or widely received during the interval (1909-1939). It seems clear to me that Beadle and Tatum happened upon the gene-enzyme relationship almost independently of Garrod's work. Thank you very much for sending this material to me.

Under separate cover I am sending you copies of several recent reprints that you might find interesting. Meanwhile, I would be happy to have reprints of any of your recent articles on the history of genetics. Although my own work is shifting more toward the social history of genetics and eugenics in the 20th century, I remain interested in and frequently still write about, chromosomal and biochemical genetics.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Garland E. Allen".

Garland E. Allen

GEA:im